Middle School Good Times

Vol. 20 #3 Paw Paw Middle School Paw Paw , MI 49079 Still $.25

WELCOME RUBEN CARLES

Ruben Carles is a foreign exchange student from Panama who is visiting our school this semester.

Ruben was born in Panama City, April 20, 1980, to Carmen and Edgardo Carles. Ruben's father is an engineer and his mother is a banker.

Ruben has a brother who is sixteen and goes to college in Pennsylvania.

Ruben is unsure of what he wants to do when he grows up, but he says he wants to go to college in the United States. He likes the United States and is looking forward to his next couple of months here.

Ruben is staying with Andy Krause, an eigth grader at PPMS.

by j. rotzien and t. johnson

8th GRADE VOLLEYBALL TEAM

The girls who are out for volleyball include the following people: Jenny Ayres, Andrea Barnes, Jessica Chandler, KElly DeRight, Linda Garcia, Becky Henley, Carrie Martin, Casey Mendenhall, Lindsey Nufer, Amy Parker, Bonnie Pursley, Kim Stover, Beth Tapper, Christy Taylor, and Erin Vesey.

Also playing volleyball are Alison Alden, Christina Ampey, Erin Coleman, Aubrey Coles, Desiree Danger, Amber DeYoung, Margie Diemer, Sarah Diemer, Sarah Grimm, Erika Harvey, Maria Hoffman, Michelle Owens, Eileen Pardike, Kristen Schull, Jessica Scott, Emily Sibert, Nancy Soule, Kari VanDussen, Heather Verburg, Shana Wendell, and Amy Withers.

Coaching the girls is our own Miss Colegrove. Miss Colegrove also coaches the freshman team.

H.M.S. PINAFORE -MARCH 18,19

The Paw Paw Middle/High school choirs proudly present their production of the H.M.S. Pinafore, a musical, March 18 and 19 in the middle school auditorium at 8:00.

The casts consists of Kelly Nelson and Jericho Groenland as Josephine, Josh Stipes and Jason Schultz as Ralph Rickstraw, Jenny Winters and Erin Jordan as Cousin Hebe, Matt Jewett as Sir Joseph Porter, Ben Bigelow and Geiorge Melichor as Captain Corcoran, Brad and Weston Selent as Deadeye Dick, Justin Nelson and Cliff Selent as Boatswain, and Lauren Hentchel and Heather Houston as Buttercup.

The chorus includes the remaining members of the choir as either sisters, cousins , aunts, sailors or stage crew.

So, remember, come and see the H.M.S Pinafore for laughs , romance and mystery.

l. hentchel and j. yerty

BAND FESTIVAL MARCH 14

Seventh and eighth grade band will travel to LMC to play in

the music festival there.

They will play "Jefferson County Overture", "Willow Grove" and "Valley Forge." We wish them luck.

CORRECT COACHING

Abusive coaching should not be allowed. Surely a history teacher would not kick the wall and shout obscenities if a student gave the wrong answer. Neither should a coach react to a player's mistakes in such an inappropriate way.

Over the years we have all heard coaches curse or yell at players. Some players are said to be motivated by this. We don't believe any of it. Being screamed at, sworn at, enduring tantrums on the sidelines does not give confidence or help a young athlete love a game. In fact, after the age of 14, many players who loved a game, now hate it.

Players may suffer emotional abuse and psychological pressure from parents and coaches.

Beware when a coach criticizes or argues with game officials or yells and screams at players. Beware when he/she only lets the best players in the game, keeping everyone else on the bench. These are all signs of poor coaching and poor sportsmanship.

To end all this insanity, get involved and if a parent, volunteer to help the coach.

a. ball

CARTOONS FOR ROLE MODELS

Everyone's heard about the four year-old who burned his house down after seeing Beavis and Butthead " doing it." Whose fault was that? Everyone is on different sides. Is it MTV's or the parents' fault for letting the child watch the program?

We strongly agree with the point that it is the parent's fault. Parents should have control of what their children watch on television.

Censorship solves nothing. Taking off Beavis and Butthead isn't going to solve the problem . Turning off the television is the solution.

Children who are too young to know right from wrong should not be able to watch it. The program is for certain ages of children.

People who have self-control are not going to go and burn down houses.

Someone should tell these children, if they are allowing them to watch it, that what they are seeing is only make-believe. It's not real...just like everything else you see on tv. There certainly isn't any teen-age boy named Butthead.

b.stacy

MR. WILSON JOINS M.S. STAFF

Bonnie Pursley and Jenny Ayres interviewed Mr. Wilson and we were not able to run the article until this issue.

When asked why he wanted to come to the middle school, Mr. Wilson said, "I wanted to come back to the classroom."

He says he really thinks the kids are "Great!" When asked would he be back next year, he said "Yes but not in Mrs. Brown's room. I don't know where I'll be yet."

They wondered if it was harder or easier here at the middle school? Mr. Wilson said, " Easier. At Cedar Street, I had 500 kids; here I have only 150. I didn't get to see everybody at Cedar Street. Here I do."

He said what he liked best about middle school was "All the different activities, boys' and girls' basketball, and student council."

Clean Choices for Cruddy Words

We went through the halls the other day and we heard a lot of potty-mouth terms so we decided to make up better choices . Here goes nothing.

Spuge spork fum mano sherbunkers phusic fudge dilloka akly ampul spife dueply olupa chotply dofu aibuka and rasupa.

Now we can put them together and really say "You spuge spork eating phusic fum olupa." Go ahead; see what you too can do.

j.ayres and l. mckenzie

POPULAR NAMES in the 90's

For boys the most popular ones (in order of most to least) : Michael, Christopher, Matthew, Joshua , Andrew, James, Nicholas, Tyler, John, and Brandon.

For girls, the most popular ones include the following: Ashley, Brittany, Jessica, Sarah, Amanda, Megan, Caitlin, Samantha, Emily, and Katherine and Kayla.

SEASONAL CHANGES

The lush green gras begins to grow,
There isn't any winter snow.
Spring is here and flowers bloom,
We are no longer shadowed by gloom.
The days will slowly get very warm,
Mosquitoes and bees begin to swarm.

Seventy, eighty, ninety degrees
Now I'm afraid I need a break.
Hurray, it's summer and I can play.
Oops, I lied. I have to say.
The air is mistyand cool.
Once again there will be school.

It's autumn now. The leaves fall to the ground,
In colors red, orange, yellow, brown.
They dry up and the days grow cold.
As autumn grows older and older.
When winter's here again we'll know.
Hey look out the window.
The first falling snow.

MOVIE REVIEWS

Recently we saw National Lampoon's LOADED WEAPON rated PG-13.

The cast included William Shatner, Cathy Ireland, Emilio Estevez and had special appearances from Tim Curry, Dennis Leary, James Doogan and The Beaver. (animal).

We rank this movie a four out of five stars and our special around the world and two snaps. We recommend the movie to anyone who likes cheap slapstick comedy.

We also saw THREE MUSKETEERS. rated PG-13 and starring Charlie Sheen, Oliver Platt, Kiefer Sutherland, Rebecca Demourne, Tim Curry, Gabrielle Anwar and Chris O'Donnell.

We give this movie five out of five stars. We recommend it to anyone who likes "swashbuckling" adventure (sword fighting) and intelligent comedy. We give this movie around the world and a kiss. Until next issue we bid you fairwell.

j.harrison and c. schuster

TRAPPED INSIDE

Trapped inside
These middle school walls
We'd rather be free to roam the halls.
We strain our brains to get work done
When we'd rather be outside
Having lots of fun.
And when the day's over
We scream and shout,
We cannot believe
We're finally out.

m.m. and h.w.

THE STAFF THIS ISSUE:

Marjie Taylor, Heather Middaugh, Jenny Ayres, Michelle Owens, Jessica Chandler, Rob Oswald, Justin Harrison, Casey Mendenhall, Rachel Lawson, Kim Emerson, Kristy Miller, Chip Wright, Ken Thomasma, Brent Shimnoski, Lauren McKenzie, Michele Krumrei, Cheryl Glidden, Eileen Pardike, Jenny Kellerman, Sarah Thomas, April Stickels, Holly Waite, Michelle Sellinger, Jenny Yerty, Lauren Hentchel, Andy French, Rosemary Beyer, Kim Holcomb, Jack Conway, Jim Hagg, Heather Sumner, Catherine O'Keefe, Winonah LaGRande, Carolyn Greenman, Justin Talbot, Angela Reidt, Todd Freeman, Steve Hamilton, Alison Hathaway, Alison Surdy, Justin Avery, Brent Latta, Andy Goodman, Kerrie Hamilton, Patti Wheat and Brandon Hewitt

Spring's Goofy Horoscopes

Pisces - You had better grow a few inches or never get the job
Aries- Put in the extra studying; you need it.
Taurus - Keep your mouth shut or you'll lose.
Gemini- Hold the line open; she/he may call.
Cancer- Stay off the stage
Leo- Keep the diet plan handy.
Virgo- Sorry, you lose.
Libra- Wear padding; you may get hurt.
Scorpio- I hope you like flying.
Sagittarius- Keep your money handy.
Capricorn- Take extreme caution; they're after you.
Aquarius- Your luck will change soon

DEAR SAM,

I have no friends. Everyone hates me and I'm really sad. Some people call me names. I hate it. How can I get some friends?

R.B.

DEAR R,

Invite someone to your house. Talk to people. Chances are they

don't hate you. You just think they do. Maybe if you try to get to know one person well it will lead to other friends.

DEAR SAM,

I just started dating this guy but I went to the movies and saw him kissing another girl. What should I do?

MIFFED

DEAR MIFFED,

Well, any guy who would kiss a girl while he is dating another is not worth it. Confront him about it. Maybe he will tell you why he did it. If he says he didn't that also tells you he isn't worth it. Who needs a liar?

DEAR SAM,

I like these two girls but I think they don't like me. How can I win their love?

ABC

DEAR ABC,

Talk to them. Tell them you like them. Write notes, send candy... Wait. Two girls? Pick one. Don't try to balance two relationships.

DEAR SAM,

I have a real problem, not a made up one. I like three guys. They are alll really sweet guys but I can't choose between them. One happens to be my boyfriend. What would you do if you were me?

AK

DEAR AK,

Well, keep in mind you have a boyfriend but maybe you find things in the two other guys that you don't see in your boyfriend. That is one reason why you should play the field at our age and not tie yourself to one guy. Be friends but don't push to be serious. That way you can get to know all three of them.

POLITICAL INCORRECTNESS

Obesity is now "seismically impaired" (earth shaker)
Criminally insane -Psychotically impaired
Short - vertically impaired
Just plain stupid- metaphysically challenged
Waste of space - mentally deficient manifestation of an area

MARCH OF DIMES WALK MAY 7

There will be a ten milewalk around the Kalamazoo downtown are.

We need two more people for a ten-person team. The first two who tell Alison Surdy they want to sign up will be on the team.

You will receive a free t-shirt , hat, a sub from Subway, drinks, wight loss and a party.

For more details call Alison 657-6464. PPMS will be our sponsor.

FALLING PAINT, HAZARDS HERE

Apparently our boys' basketball teams were denied a game with Delton-Kellogg because supposedly our gym was unsafe. I have yet to hear of death by paint chips.

An architect supposedly said he didn't know how our building was still standing. I think I know why it is still standing. There is nothing terrible wrong with our building. j. groenland

PPMS NEEDS FIXING

PPMS was built in 1924. The school is seventy years old and looks it.

A couple of weeks ago an inspector for the state school fund came and looked over our school. According to the inspector our school is need of major repair.

The mould or cement that holds the bricks in place is coming loose, allowing the bricks to fall off the outside walls.

The inside is leaking water badly. This water in the walls makes the paint peel off. The ceiling also has many cracks.

The school can go on for a bit with the cracks and peeling paint but not with loose bncks falling.

Estimated repair costs are anywhere from $25,000 to $100,000. To fix the whole building, it could be a million.

The big question is where will Paw Paw find a million dollars?

l.hentchel / s. thomas

EASTER BUNNY ANSWERS

How many jelly beans do you go through? " 100,100,000, 000 lbs."

How do you feel about the Tonya Harding story?"

" I believe Nancy Kerrigan and Tonaya will get no candy."

Do you have a girl friend?

"Yes, Bunny Bubble."

He said he will give all the teachers candy this year and that he likes all the other holidays.

Mr. Bunny did say however that he would not give candy to Santa. Why not?

" He needs Jenny Craig!"

by j. groenland

STINKY FEET

Stinky feet make me freak
Until I put them in the sink
And when they are clean
They don't make me scream.
If they reek, I will freak.

m.m./ h.w.

THE TRASH CAN

My brother is a trash can,
He eats everything in the house,
He never ever even saves a crumb for any mouse,
When I come home from school,
It isn't very cool
Because my brother eats everything
And doesn't save ME anything.

mm/hw

JUNIOR ACHIEVERS in 7th grade

Paw Paw middle school seventh graders have been doing a project called Junior Achievement.

J.A. is a business project where each week a local business person visits a social studies class and teaches them how business works.

a.h., k.h., and a.r.

MEAP -WHAT IS IT?

Carolyn Greenman interviewed Mr. Pefley to find out what MEAP really was.

GT reporter: What is it for?

Mr. Pefley: It is to determine achievement levels in students. MEAP started in 1969. MEAP started

out easy and then they made it harder to see what you know.

In high school they now give you a special seal on your diploma to show you passed the MEAP sophomore year.

Next year there will be a proficiency test and you won't get a diploma unless you pass it.

GT: What was the average of kids passing this yearin 7th grade?

Mr. Pefley: This year the average in reading was 48 % and 47% in math.

GT: Do you think MEAP helps?

Mr. P: I think it has a lot of value.

ST. Patrick's Day on the Way

Yes, it's coming, on March 17th to be exact, St. Patrick's Day.

The leprachauns will be coming to pinch anyone who isn't wearing green. Watch out! Hurry and get your "Kiss me, I'm Irish" pins and any other pins that are green. Wear them St. Patrick's Day.

by P. W.

WHAT IS A LEPRACHAUN?

Let me describe a leprachaun to you. First off, they are green. Second, they're cheerful little pinchers if you don't wear green.

Third, you better believe in them or they'll curse you with bad luck.

The leprachaun who handles the Michigan lower peninsula is Lenny. (short for Leonard). He's happiest if you are wearing green. Kiss me. I'm Irish.

p.w.

MISS COLEGROVE INTERVIEWED

Miss Colegrove joined the middle school staff last year but somehow an interview with her never appeared. Our apologies.

Miss Colegrove went to Western Michigan University for college. She said she chose to be a teacher because she knew she'd like it. She has been teaching for over two years.

Asked if she had always taught the same grade, she said no. She has had all three of the middle school grades while here but she taught before this at Mattawan.

What do you think of our school compared to others, our reporter asked. She said they are totally different since at Mattawan she was in the elementary.

She likes being at Paw Paw Middle School and is coaching the volleyball team for eighth and ninthe grades.

She is not married but says maybe someday. She has no children but figures that too will come when the time is right.

If she were thirteen again she'd do the same things she did when she was thirteen.

What has changed about teenagers over the years? She feels they have less respect.

Asked about her first love, she says it was when she was fourteen but then says, "It wasn't love."

How'd she feel about all these questions? "Pestered and annoyed... no just kidding."

by Rachel Lawson

HAVE YOU ANY IDEAS FOR THE NEXT PAPER? Please submit them to Mrs. Swanson's mailbox in the office. (It's low enough to reach even for short people!)

SOCKS CLINTON INTERVIEWED

Reporter: How do you like being First Cat?

SOCKS: Well, I'm stuck outside all the time because Bill's allergic to me. So I freeze my paws and I can't even go to my litter box without photographers taking my picture,

Reporter: So you like it?

Socks: No except for the publicity.

Reporter: What are your feelings toward Millie, the former First Dog?

Socks: She left her mark everywhere, but no, I didn't really know her.

What's Had It/What's Hip
Preripped jeans /self-shredded jeans
Pointy motocycle boots/ cowboy boots
Brenda Walsh/ Kelly Taylor should-grazing earrings/ studs or tiny hoops
Aerobics daily/ outdoor sports
super skinny bodies/ strong curvy figures
powerful perfumes/ essential oils
diet soda/ snapple
your real size/ extra large or x-small
belts/ suspenders
jackets/ vests
running/ walking
hot chocolate / flavored teas
exaggerated bells/ flare-legged jeans
plastic surgery/ natural beauty
heavy conditioners/ leave-in detanglers

eh, ns, and t.e.

WRESTLING SEASON UNDERWAY

A real first for 1994 is PPMS wrestling. More than a decade ago wrestling was an option for 7th and 8th graders. This year marks wrestling's comeback.

Wrestling team members include Shawn Sparks, Nick Kuntz, Joe DiPrima, Rusty Ely, Mike Whipple, Ramon Nunez, Jason Babin, E.J. McLemore, Chris Brown, Cory Vyverman, Brian Winter, Henry and Eric Longjohn, Brent Latta, Ken and Adam Shipley, Pat Wing, Rock Valverdays, and Bob Curry.

Good luck, guys! j.d.

VOLLEYING SEVENTH GRADERS

The A team includes Julie Vesey, Lindsey Smith. Lindsey Boysen, Casey Charters, Dawn Dean, Mandi Thomasma, Jericho Groenland, Jenny Jennings, Amy Baltmanis, Jessica Price, Angela Reidt, Rene Rennhack, Renee Harris, Stephanie VanLoon, Kristen Nugetren, and Jessica Beck.

The B team includes Suzzanne Overacker, Jenna Van Atta, MArtha Rohrbacher, Jenny Reits, Ginnie Moore, Erin Jordan, Heidi Wilhelmi, Tasha Higgins, Rachel, Hebner, Alison Hathaway, Kerrie Hamilton, Megan Abbot, Megan Frazier, Jessica Baugher, Mandy Pyard and Megan Abbot.

by m.hodges

WANNA KNOW ALL ABOUT CORN detasseling? Check in the office with Mr. Pefley....summer fun in the "veggie-laden" sun.

ACTION FIGURES OF 1994

A LEAUGE OF THEIR OWN

PULL HER STRING ("PLAY BALL")

SHE SAYS

LAMBCHOP

SHE SINGS

("THE SONG THAT NEVER ENDS")

AL GORE AND BILL CLINTON

WIND HIM UP AND WATCH HIM GO

HE PLAYS "HAPPY BIRTHDAY"